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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,739	05/26/2004	Itzhak Bentwich	050992.0302.00USCP	3738
37808	7590	01/09/2008	EXAMINER	
ROSETTA-GENOMICS			SCHNIZER, RICHARD A	
c/o PSWS			ART UNIT	
700 W. 47TH STREET			PAPER NUMBER	
SUITE 1000			1635	
KANSAS CITY, MO 64112			MAIL DATE	
			DELIVERY MODE	
			01/09/2008	
			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/709,739

Applicant(s)

BENTWICH ET AL.

Examiner

Richard Schnizer, Ph. D.

Art Unit

1635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26,31,33 and 35-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26,31,33 and 35-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 May 2004 and 02 January 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

An amendment was received and entered 11/28/07.

Claims 23-25, 27-30, 32, and 34 were canceled, and claims 35-40 were added.

Claims 26, 31, 33, and 35-40 are pending and under consideration.

Rejections not reiterated are withdrawn.

This Action is NON-FINAL due to the indication in the previous Action that SEQ ID NO: 118171 was free of the prior art. Nucleic acids consisting of SEQ ID NO: 118171, are considered to be obvious for the reasons set forth below.

Oath/Declaration

The oath filed 11/28/07 overcame the previous objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 26, 31, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pfeffer et al (US 20050222067).

Pfeffer taught SEQ ID NO: 82 which is identical to instant SEQ ID NO: 4204050. See Table A2 at page 5 of Pfeffer. Pfeffer also taught vectors comprising SEQ ID NO: 82. See paragraphs 31-33 and claims 70 and 72. Note that SEQ ID NO: 82 is considered to be a probe comprising the sequence of instant SEQ ID NO: 4204050, as are the vectors of '067 claims 70 and 72.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pfeffer et al (US 20050222067).

Pfeffer taught SEQ ID NO: 82 which is identical to instant SEQ ID NO: 4204050. See Table A2 at page 5 of Pfeffer.

Pfeffer did not explicitly teach a sequence consisting of instant SEQ ID NOS: 117937 or 118171. However, Pfeffer did explicitly disclose instant SEQ ID NO: 4204050, which comprises instant SEQ ID NOS: 117937 or 118171, and Pfeffer also fairly taught isolated molecules comprising 10-50 bases of SEQ ID NO: 82, and vectors comprising these sequences. See paragraphs 17, 18, and 31-33.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to make any 10-50 base fragment of SEQ ID NO: 82 of Pfeffer for use as an

inhibitory RNA molecule because Pfeffer makes this suggestion at paragraphs 17 and 18. Further Pfeffer discloses a 22-base fragment that differs from instant SEQ ID NO: 117937 by beginning and ending 1 base earlier in the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 82 than does instant SEQ ID NO: 117937 (see the first sequence disclosed in Table A2, i.e. SEQ ID NO: 71) , so it is clear that one of ordinary skill would have considered 22 base fragments of SEQ ID NO: 82 as inhibitory RNA molecules. In so doing one would have arrived at all forty-six possible 22 base fragments of SEQ ID NO 82. Thus the invention as a whole was prima facie obvious.

Conclusion

No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner(s) should be directed to Richard Schnizer, whose telephone number is 571-272-0762. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:00 AM and 3:30. The examiner is off on alternate Fridays, but is sometimes in the office anyway.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, J. Douglas Schultz, can be reached at (571) 272-0763. The official central fax number is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

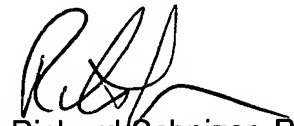
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Application/Control Number:
10/709,739
Art Unit: 1635

Page 5

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For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Schnizer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Schnizer, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1635